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THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1792.

Whitehall, July 25.

THE Letters and Enclosures, of which the following are Copies and Extract, were this Day received from the East Indies by the Company's Ships Lord Camden and Northumberland.

Camp before Seringapatam, March 4, 1792.

S I R,

I Have very great Satisfaction in transmitting to you the enclosed Copy of the Preliminaries * of Peace, that were settled on the Night of the 23d of February, between the Three Confederate Powers and Tippoo Sultan, to be laid before His Majesty.

Although some Circumstances delayed the Delivery of the Hostages until the 26th, I was induced, by the earnest Desire of Tippoo, to consent to a Cessation of Hostilities on the 24th Ultimo; and I trust that not only the Preliminary Articles will soon be completely executed, but also that those of the Definitive Treaty will, without much Delay, be adjusted and concluded.

Having giving a Detail of the Military Operations that preceded the Cessation of Arms, and of several Particulars of the Negotiation, in a Letter of this Date, addressed to the Honourable Court of Directors of the East India Company, which will be officially communicated to you for His Majesty's Information, it becomes unnecessary to trouble you with a Repetition of the Contents of that Letter: But I request that you will be pleased to assure His Majesty, that although the formidable Power of Tippoo has been so much reduced by the Event of a War, into which we were forced by the ungovernable Ambition and Violence of his Character, as to render it improbable that he can be able, for many Years to come, to give any material Disturbance to the British Possessions in India; yet that, in the Selection of the Countries that are to be ceded to us, my primary Object shall be, to fix upon those Districts to the Extent of our Rights by the present Treaty, that may be, from local Situation, best calculated for giving us a strong defensive Frontier against the future Attacks of any Power whatever from above the Ghauts.

I must beg that you will also inform the King, that, gallantly as His Majesty's Troops on this Service have behaved on all other Occasions, their Courage and Discipline were never more eminent, nor their Services more valuable to their Country, than in the

Attack of the Enemy's fortified Camp on the Night of the 6th Ult.

My warmest Acknowledgements were therefore due to the Officers and Soldiers in general, for their Behaviour in that Action; and I am persuaded, when proper Opportunities offer, it will likewise prove the most effectual Recommendation for them to His Majesty's Favor.

General Medows, who had some Time ago resolved to return to Europe as soon as the War should be concluded, intends, with my entire Approbation, to embark on the last Ship of this Season that sails from Madras; and I think it my Duty on this Occasion to declare, that the Zeal and Ability, which the General has constantly employed during this War in promoting the Interests of his Country, have, in my Opinion, done great Honor to himself; and that the friendly Support and Assistance, which he has uniformly afforded me, have laid me under the most lasting Obligations.

It has at the same Time been my singular good Fortune to experience a Co-operation and Assistance, no less zealous and friendly, from General Abercromby, in his able Conduct of the Army that was formed on the Coast of Malabar; and I request that you will be pleased to communicate my Sentiments on the Behaviour and Merits of both these Officers to His Majesty.

This Dispatch will be delivered to you by Captain Madan, one of my Aids de Camp, whom I beg Leave to recommend to His Majesty as a deserving Officer; and, as he has served in the Field from the Commencement of the War, he will, I trust, be able to give you satisfactory Explanations of all the Operations and Transactions that he has witnessed.

I have the Honor to enclose a List of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Troops, under my Command, from the 6th Ult. to the Day of the Cessation of Arms inclusive, with a Return † of the Artillery that fell into our Hands upon the Defeat of the Enemy's Army.

I have the Honor to be,

S I R,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) CORNWALLIS.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas,

One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries, &c. &c. &c.

* Already printed in the Gazette of July 5, 1792.

† Printed in the Gazette of July 2, 1792.

Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of His Majesty's and the Honourable Company's Troops, commanded by Earl Cornwallis, before Seringapatam, from the 8th of February inclusive, to the 24th of the June Month, when the Cessation of Hostilities took Place between the Confederate Powers and Tippoo Sultan.

36th Regiment. 4 Rank and File wounded.
52d Regiment. 1 Rank and File killed; 2 Rank and File wounded.
74th Regiment. 2 Rank and File killed; 5 Rank and File wounded.
76th Regiment. 1 Rank and File killed; 4 Rank and File wounded; 1 Rank and File since dead.
4th European Battalion. 3 Rank and File killed; 2 Rank and File wounded.
7th Bengal Native Battalion. 1 Rank and File killed; 1 Rank and File wounded.
14th Bengal Native Battalion. 1 Rank and File wounded.
26th Bengal Native Battalion. 4 Rank and File killed; 1 Havildar and 9 Rank and File wounded.
2d Battalion Coast Native Infantry. 3 Rank and File killed; 1 Rank and File wounded.
Bengal Gun Lascars. 1 Syrang and 3 Gun Lascars wounded.
Lieutenant Dowse's Pioneers. 2 Rank and File wounded.
Lieutenant Lennon's Pioneers. 1 Rank and File killed; 1 Rank and File wounded.

GENERAL ABSTRACT.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
Europeans - - -	7	17	24
Natives - - -	9	20	29
General Total - -	16	37	53

B. Close, Adjutant-General of the Army.

Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Division of Troops from the Malabar Coast, under Major-General Abercromby, forming a Part of the Army commanded by Earl Cornwallis before Seringapatam.

February 19, 1792.

His Majesty's 73d Regiment. 1 Serjeant and 3 Rank and File wounded.
His Majesty's 75th Regiment. 2 Drummers and 3 Rank and File wounded.
Grenadiers Battalion Native Infantry. 2 Rank and File killed; 1 Drummer and 3 Rank and File wounded.
2d Battalion Native Infantry. 1 Rank and File killed.
10th Battalion ditto. 1 Rank and File killed; 1 Subidar wounded.
12th Battalion ditto. 1 Havildar and 1 Rank and File wounded.
14th Battalion ditto (Madras.) 1 Rank and File killed; 3 Rank and File wounded.

February 22, 1792.

His Majesty's 75th Regiment. 3 Rank and File killed; 1 Serjeant and 7 Rank and File wounded.
1st Bombay European Battalion. 2 Rank and File killed; Lieutenant James Lloyd and 32 Rank and File wounded.
2d Battalion Native Infantry. 1 Havildar, 2 Rank and File, and 1 Puckally, killed; Lieutenant Charles John Mears and 18 Rank and File wounded.
10th Battalion ditto. 8 Rank and File killed; Lieutenant Robert Hunt, 1 Subidar, 1 Havildar, and 13 Rank and File, wounded.
12th Battalion ditto. 1 Havildar and 2 Rank and File killed; 1 Serjeant, 1 Drummer, and 7 Rank and File, wounded.

GENERAL ABSTRACT.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
Europeans - - -	5	49	54
Natives - - -	20	54	74
Grand Total - - -	25	103	128

REFERENCES.

February 19. On the Occasion of crossing the Cavery Westward of the Fort, and occupying a Position South of the River.

February 22. The Enemy having failed in Force, attacked a Post advanced from Major-General Abercromby's Encampment, and were repulsed.

B. Close, Adjutant-General of the Army.

To the Honorable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honorable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

HONORABLE SIRS,

I Have now the Satisfaction to be able to inform your Honorable Court that the War with Tippoo Sultaun is terminated by a Peace with that Prince, and on Conditions which, I trust, will secure solid and lasting Advantages to the Company and to the British Nation.

The Multiplicity of Arrangements which it was necessary to combine for transporting our Military Stores and Provisions, and for securing future Supplies of Subsistence for the vast Multitudes of Soldiers and Followers that belong to the Confederate Armies, as well as the Embarrassment of so many heavy Incumbrances with the Army, would, even with the most hearty Concurrence of all the Officers who were intrusted with the principal executive Parts of the Plan of the Campaign, have unavoidably rendered our Movement towards the Enemy's Capital extremely slow; but after the Date of my last Letter I was further delayed, beyond all my Calculation, in advancing to Seringapatam, by the culpable Conduct of Perferam Bhow, who, in direct Contradiction to his repeated Promises, suffered himself to be allured by the Hopes of being able to plunder the rich Province of Bednore, and, with that View, marched his Army to the Westward, instead of complying with my Request that he would move back to the Eastward, to co-operate in the general Plan, that had been long settled amongst the Confederate Powers, for the Investiture and Reduction of Seringapatam.

A very successful Expedition that was made by a large Detachment of Tippoo's Cavalry, for the Purpose of relieving the upper Fort of Gurrumconda, so entirely deranged the Measures that the Nizam's Minister, Azeem ul Omrah, had taken for the Security of that Quarter, that after having advanced to the Southward of Chintominypett, he was obliged to return with his whole Corps to re establish Order in the Districts adjoining to Gurrumconda, which likewise gave me some Interruption. His Zeal, however, for the Cause, and his earnest Desire to bring the Prince Secunder Jah to the Army before it moved forward, called forth his utmost Exertions on this Occasion, and he returned and joined the other allied Forces on the 25th of January, in the Neighbourhood of Outradroog.

As Three Bombay Battalions are attached to Perferam Bhow's Army, which is also numerous and active, and has long been in the Practice of carrying on separate Operations, and of securing it's own Supplies, I had placed my Dependence upon that Corps for crossing the Cavery to join General Abercromby, and to enable him not only to bring on his heavy Artillery from the Top of the Ghauts, but also

also to invest Seringapatam completely on the South Side of the River.

The Disappointment, however, that I experienced from the Bhow, obliged me to make several Alterations in my original Plan, though the cheerful Readiness shewn by Azeem ul Omrah upon his Junction, at first encouraged me to flatter myself that no very great Deviation from it would be necessary.

Immediately upon my ascertaining that Perferam Bhow had no Intention to execute the Part of the general Plan that had been allotted for him, I dispatched Orders to General Abercromby to place his heavy Artillery in a secure Post at the Top of the Ghauts, and to hold his Corps in Readiness to move, lightly equipped in every Respect, at the shortest Notice; and, on the Day of my Arrival in this Neighbourhood, I sent further Instructions to him to march without Delay, and occupy as strong a Position as he could find on the South Side of the Eantoor Ford, at the Distance of between Thirty and Forty Miles from hence, and which had been described as one of the best Fords upon the River.

My Intention then was to have availed myself of the Minister's Disposition to comply with my Recommendations, and to have sent him, with all the Nizam's Troops, and the Two Madras Battalions attached to them, to form a Junction with General Abercromby on the South Bank of the River, and to have directed, according to Circumstances, either that the combined Force should proceed without Delay to invest the South Side of Seringapatam, or that the General should previously send to the Top of the Ghaut for his heavy Artillery. More minute Enquiries into the internal State of the Nizam's Troops obliged me to relinquish that Plan; for I found that the Minister's Talents for securing regular Supplies for the Troops under his Command fell so far short of his Zeal to promote my Wishes and the general Interests of the Confederacy, that his Corps could not be detached, even for a few Days, to any considerable Distance from our Buzars and our Northern Communications, without exposing it to suffer great Distress from Want of Provisions; and as neither Hurry Punt's Health, nor the Condition of his Army, admitted of his undertaking that Service in the Room of Azeem ul Omrah, I was subsequently obliged to direct General Abercromby to cross, and join me on the North Side of the River.

Although all my Hopes were at an End of receiving any immediate Assistance from Perferam Bhow, and I concluded that our Difficulties would be greatly increased by that Disappointment, I neither deviated from the Execution of the general Outlines of the original Plan of the Campaign, nor felt diffident of ultimate Success; but at the same Time I stated my Sentiments on his Conduct in very strong Terms, both to himself and to the Court of Poonah; and as the Forces under his Command were peculiarly well calculated for giving essential Aid, either in holding the Place closely invested, or in making Head against any Corps which Tippoo might keep in the Field for the Purpose of intercepting our Supplies during the Siege, I requested of him to quit the Pursuits in which he was engaged, and move (late as it was, and different from the Plan that had been settled) with the utmost Expedition, by the Route that he had marched last Season towards our Army.

The Bhow had met with considerable Success in his desultory Expedition; for by the good Conduct of Captain Little, and the Gallantry of the Three Bombay Battalions under his Command, he totally defeated, in a thick woody Country, in the Neighbourhood of Simoga, the Corps commanded by the Nabob Reza Ali, which Tippoo had stationed in that Quarter for the Protection of the Bednore Country; and, in consequence of that Victory, he obtained

Possession of Simoga after a slight Resistance, and of all the other Posts belonging to the Enemy, within a few Miles Distance from the Town of Bednore; and it afterwards appeared, that although he had reasonable Grounds there to flatter himself that the Place would soon have fallen into his Hands, he came to a sudden Resolution to return from thence by rapid Marches to join us, which he effected Two Days after the Preliminaries of Peace were signed: But whether his Determination to return to the Southward was owing, as it was reported, to his having received peremptory Orders to that Effect from Poonah, or to the Letters that I had written to him, I do not know, nor have I now thought it worth while to be at much Pains to ascertain.

There was, in the mean Time, no Intermision in the Exertions that were necessary to complete our own Preparations, and to enable me to proceed to attack the Enemy's Army and Capital with the Confederate Forces under my own immediate Direction; and as soon as I could move from the Neighbourhood of Outradroog, I advanced, and, after a few easy Marches, encamped on the 5th of February behind the French Rocks, at the Distance of about Seven or Eight Miles from Seringapatam.

Upon my Arrival there I found, conformable to Information that I had previously received, that Tippoo, trusting to the Strength of his Position, appeared to have determined to keep his Ground; and as the Badness of all the Fords near the Town, and indeed the Security of our Northern Supplies, put it equally out of my Power to attempt to pass the River with the main Army, and all its Stores and heavy Artillery, I did not hesitate in resolving to attack him, his Removal being an indispensable Preliminary to the Commencement of the Siege of his Capital.

In order, therefore, to be enabled to take proper Measures for carrying my Determination into Execution, the Afternoon of the 5th was employed in examining the Hircarras, who had been frequently sent to Tippoo's Camp to make Observations upon it; and, on the following Morning, the whole Position was carefully reconnoitred, under Cover of a strong Detachment from the Tops of Eminences, which, though at a considerable Distance, commanded a View of it through its whole Extent from the Right to the Left.

It then clearly appeared to have been chosen with great Judgment, and fortified with extraordinary Care on a Tract of Land close to the North Bank of the River, and nearly parallel to the Island, with the Heights of the Karigut Pagoda almost within the Distance of a Cannon Shot on the Right, and those of Somarpett and the Ead-Gah, (a Place of Mahomedan Worship) on the Left; the Front not only covered by a bound Hedge and Six large Redoubts well furnished with a Cannon, but the Approach to it also rendered uncommonly difficult by a Number of Rice Fields, Ravines and Water-Courses with which it was almost in every Part intersected; and the whole was within Reach and protected either by the Guns of the Fort, or by Batteries and Intrenchments that had been constructed on the Island.

Under these Circumstances it was evident that the Event of an Attack in Day-Light might have been doubtful, and that the Loss of a great Number of our best Soldiers would have been certain, whilst at the same Time when he had a Retreat for his Army so near and so well covered, I could hardly have been sanguine enough to hope that any Advantage, which it would have been possible to have gained in the Day, would have been decisive.

I therefore determined to attack him in the Night, and without Loss of Time; and as little Use could be expected from our Guns in the dark, and the Nature of the Ground between us and the Enemy's Camp would

would have rendered it extremely difficult to convey them, I resolved to march without Artillery of any Kind; and in such an Enterprize neither our own, nor the Cavalry of the Allies, could afford any Assistance.

Having arranged the Plan of Attack in the Afternoon of the 6th, and allotted the Reserve, consisting of our own Cavalry and One European and One Native Battalion, the Camp Guards of the other Regiments, and the Corps of Artillery, the whole under the Command of Colonel Duff, for the Protection of all our Baggage, Guns and Stores, Nineteen Battalions were ordered to be ready to march as soon as it was dark, in Three Columns.

The Right Column composed of Two European and Five Native Battalions, commanded by Major-General Medows; the Center Column composed of Three Europeans, and Five Native Battalions, under my own immediate Direction; and the Left Column composed of One European and Three Native Battalions, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell. Lieutenant-Colonels Cockerell and Nesbitt were attached to the Right, Lieutenant-Colonels Stuart and Knox to the Center, and Lieutenant-Colonel Baird to the Left Column. A small Detachment of the Corps of Artillery was ordered to march in the Rear of each of the Columns, to be in Readiness to make Use of any of the Enemy's Guns that might fall into our Hands.

The commanding Nature of the Ground on which the Ead-Gah stands, had induced Tippoo to construct a Redoubt upon that Eminence, but though within the bound Hedge, as it was not less than Half a Mile distant from the Front of his Army, and I had received certain Information that the Work was uncommonly strong, and as I likewise conceived that from it's advanced Situation it would soon be evacuated if we should succeed in routing the Army, it was not my Intention that it should be attacked. Directions were accordingly given that the Right Column should penetrate the Enemy's Line about Half a Mile to the Eastward of the Ead-Gah; the Center Column a few Hundred Yards to the Eastward of the Road which leads to the Ford at the Dowlat Baug, and the Column under Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell was destined, at the same Time, to attack the Karigut Pagoda, and some Works that the Enemy had very lately began to construct on an high Hill, that overlooks the Pagoda, at a small Distance from it.

The Officers leading the advanced Divisions of the Right and Center Columns were instructed to endeavour, after penetrating the Enemy's Line, to pass the River, if possible, with the Fugitives, and obtain Possession of the Batteries upon the Island; and Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell was also directed, after possessing himself of the Objects of his Attack, to do his utmost to enter the Island by the Karigut Ford, when he should observe that the Attacks upon the Enemy's Army had been successful.

A considerable Time was required to arrange the Troops from an extensive Line of Encampment, in the Order which had been prescribed for the respective Columns; but the Whole were ready to march forward about Nine, and soon after Eleven o'Clock the Center and Left Columns reached the first Points of their Destination, and immediately attacked with the most complete Success.

At the Center Attack the Fire of the Enemy's Infantry and Artillery was heavy for a short Time, but our Loss there was not great; and the Head of the Column, according to Instructions, after carrying a large Redoubt, near which Tippoo's own Tent was pitched, and upon which he principally depended for the Protection of his Right Wing, mixed with the Fugitives, and crossed over to the Island with them with the greatest Spirit and Rapidity; Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell having, in the mean Time,

driven the Enemy from the Posts that he was ordered to attack, with very little Loss on his Side, descended the Hill with Three Battalions of the Left Column: Upon observing the Success of the Center Attack, and upon finding it impracticable to force the Karigut Ford under the heavy Fire of the Enemy's Intrenchments on the opposite Side, he moved with the utmost Expedition to the Ford, at which Part of the Center Column was passing, under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart, and crossed over to the Island with him. The European Flank Companies of the Center Column had, in the mean Time, crossed at another Ford, and, by the united Exertions of the Whole, we immediately became Masters, and retained Possession of the Sultaun's principal Garden, and the Whole of the Island to the Eastward of the Pettah of Sharr Ganjam.

The Right Column, by a Concurrence of several of those untoward Circumstances to which Attacks in the Night must ever be liable, was delayed and disappointed in executing the Part of the general Arrangement that had been assigned to it. The Route of it's intended March was across a Space of Country, which, though apparently open; is cut by several difficult Ravines, with a deep Water-Course running through it; the Channel of which winds so much that the Column was obliged to pass it Two or Three Times in endeavouring to march straight to the Point of Attack; and the Guides who conducted it having by that Means, and from their having been instructed to avoid the great Roads, lost the proper Direction of the March, unluckily carried the Head of the Column close to the Ead-Gah Redoubt, and, before the Mistake could be rectified, the Ardor of those that led engaged them in the Assault.

Great Pains had not only been taken in constructing the Redoubt, and in providing it with Cannon, but Tippoo had also intrusted the Defence of it to a large Body of the Choice of his Infantry. The Struggle was therefore violent, and, for a short Time, almost doubtful; for the first Efforts of our Troops, though gallant to the utmost Degree, were not successful, and it was not carried at last without much Effusion of Blood on both Sides.

General Medows immediately occupied the Post with a strong Detachment, and being within the bound Hedge, moved towards the Point of the Enemy's Position at which it had been originally intended that he should penetrate; but the firing having long before ceased at the Attacks of the other Two Columns, he concluded that the Defeat of the Enemy had been completed, and finding great Difficulty from Swamps and Ravines in marching within the bound Hedge, he returned to the Outside of it, and marched along it's Front to the Karigut Pagoda, where he expected to be in immediate Communication with the other Divisions of the Army.

In the mean Time, however, Part of the Enemy's Center and Left having a little recovered from the Panic with which they had been struck by our Success against their Right, made a Disposition, and advanced about an Hour before the Day began to break, with a considerable Degree of Order and Resolution, to attack the Troops that occupied the Ground at which we had first penetrated: But having luckily retained with myself near Four Battalions for the Security of that Point, the Enemy were beaten and driven back after a sharp Conflict; and Day approaching fast, and the Ground on which we stood being commanded by the Guns of the Fort, it was necessary to move from thence soon after, leaving a Detachment in Possession of the Redoubt on the Enemy's Right, which had been carried in the Beginning of the Action.

Great and repeated Exertions were made by Tippoo, during the succeeding Day, to retake that Redoubt, which the Vicinity of the Fort, and the excessive

cessive Fatigue of the Troops, rendered it difficult for us to succour; but his Efforts, proving fruitless, he desisted from the Attempt in the Afternoon; and in the Course of the following Night he evacuated all the other Redoubts in his Possession on the North Side of the River.

Our Loss in killed and wounded, though not great in Number, must, from the Value of the gallant Officers and Soldiers who fell, be estimated as very considerable. That of the Enemy it has been impossible to ascertain with Precision; it has however appeared, in general, that his Cavalry suffered considerably, and that his Infantry, either in the Action, or by Desertions since that Day, has been so much diminished, that he never seemed to have considered the Remainder as more than sufficient for the Defence of Seringapatam; and besides other Trophies, 77 Pieces of Cannon, 35 of which are Brass of different Calibres, from Nine to Two Pounds, fell into our Hands.

Exhausted as the Troops were, nothing further could be done on the 7th than to take some Steps for securing our Posts upon the Island, which I had occupied with Eight Battalions; and in order to provide against all Disappointment in the Co-operation of the Bombay Army, as well as that it might be as little exposed as possible to be harassed on the March by Tippoo's Cavalry, I dispatched in the Afternoon of that Day the Instructions I have already mentioned, to General Abercromby, to cross and join me with the utmost Expedition on the North Side of the River; and having Two Days after sent our own Cavalry, a large Body of the Nizam's, and the Maratta Horse, and One of the Company's Battalions in the Nizam's Pay, to meet him on the March, a Corps of Tippoo's Cavalry that had crossed the River for the Purpose, was completely foiled in an Attempt to disturb him, and he joined us on the 15th of February.

All the necessary Measures were also taken in the mean Time to quicken the Preparation for commencing the Siege, and to counterbalance a Multitude of Obstacles which the Barrenness of the Country on the North Side, and many Circumstances in the Situation of the Place presented to us; we were lucky enough to find ample Materials for Fascines and Gabions in Tippoo's extensive Gardens on the Island.

Some of the most capable of the Frenchmen, and other Foreigners; who had long been in Tippoo's Service, came over to us in the Course of a few Days after the Action; and it soon appeared from their Accounts, as well as from the Result of our own reconnoitring, that all the Descriptions that we had hitherto obtained of the Situation, and of the Works of the Fort, and even the Remarks, that had been made upon them last Season by ourselves, were extremely incorrect and imperfect. Instead, therefore, of attacking it, as I had at first proposed, on the Island Side, where, besides some Outworks, it is defended by Two deep Ditches, and Two strong Walls, with Battions and Cavaliers constructed with great Care, and well furnished with heavy Artillery, I resolved, after the most mature Consideration, and notwithstanding the Difficulties that were to be apprehended in establishing Communications to the Breaches across the North Branch of the River, to carry on the Attack against the Space which includes the Sultan Bastion, and the Western Cavaliers: And although the Weakness of the Wall, the Shallowness of the Ditch, and the incomplete State of Part of the Glacis in that Quarter, would, perhaps, have appeared to me to afford sufficient Grounds for that Resolution, I was still further encouraged to adopt it, by having ascertained that it would, at this Season of the Year, be practicable to throw the greatest

Part of the Water of the Caveri out of the Two Branches that form the Island of Seringapatam, by repairing and improving a Dam that goes across the River a few Miles above the Island, which seems to be an ancient Work, and constructed like several others on the Caveri, for the Purpose of forcing Part of the Current into Canals that have been cut, with great Skill and Labour, to furnish Water for the Cultivation of a long Tract of Land on both Sides of the River.

Having determined upon the above Plan of Attack, it became necessary to strengthen further our Posts upon the Island, in order that I might be able, without endangering their Safety, to withdraw some Part of the Force that had hitherto been sent upon that Duty to assist in carrying on the Siege.

Strong working Parties, in Addition to those that were constantly occupied in making Fascines and Gabions, were accordingly employed to render those Posts secure; and this Object being accomplished, Six Battalions were allotted as a stationary Guard of the Island, and for furnishing such working Parties as might be necessary to afford a certain and ample Supply of Fascines and Gabions for the Works.

Our Arrangements of every other Kind being likewise completed, the Trenches were opened on the Night of the 18th of February, and on the following Morning General Abercromby was ordered to cross the River with Nine Battalions, about Two Miles above the Fort, to occupy an advantageous and strong Position at the Distance of about random Cannon Shot from the Works; and he was instructed to make immediate Preparations for carrying on Approaches, and for constructing Batteries to assist in destroying the Enemy's Works, and to enfilade the whole Front that was to be attacked.

During the Time that the military Operations that I have described were carrying on with unremitting Vigour, Tippoo, sensible of the Danger of his Situation, had made several Overtures to treat with the Confederates; and a few Days after the Action a Negotiation was opened by Deputies from all the Parties, which, after various Discussions, terminated the Contest.

Before the Confederate Armies moved from the Neighbourhood of Outradroog, Letters were received from Tippoo, in which he repeated his Request to be permitted to send Vackeels to treat; but, with the warm Approbation and Concurrence of Hurry Punt and Azeem ul Omrah, I told him that I should insist upon his executing the Capitulation of Coimbatour, as a Preliminary to all Negotiation.

In Answer to my Letter he denied that any Capitulation for that Garrison had taken Place between Lieutenant Chalmers and Kummer ud-dien Khan; and as it was far from my Wish to drive him to Despair, by treating so shameless an Assertion in the Manner it deserved, and by that Means shutting the Door against all Treaty, I replied, with the same Concurrence of the Confederates, that it depended entirely upon himself to state this Matter in a clear and uncontrovertible Light, by communicating again with Kummer ud-dien Khan upon the Subject, and by a personal Examination of Lieutenants Chalmers and Nash, who were still in his Possession; and that if I had been misinformed, he could, without the least Prejudice to his Interest, as I should engage that neither of the Gentlemen should serve against him during the War, easily convince me of it, by sending out Lieutenants Chalmers and Nash, or one of them, to declare the Truth.

Of this Proposition he took no Notice 'till after the Defeat of his Army; but in the Afternoon of the 8th he sent to Camp Lieutenants Chalmers and Nash, and the few other Europeans that had been taken



taken with them at Coimbatour, accompanied with Letters, requesting again that Vackeels might be received from him, to open a Negotiation for Peace.

Although Tippoo's flagrant Breach of the Capitulation was clearly established by the personal Testimony of Lieutenants Chalmers and Nash, yet knowing as I did how important it was for the Interests of the Company and the British Nation that no Time should be unnecessarily lost in securing a safe and honorable Peace, and seeing likewise that a Perseverance in requiring a literal Compliance with my first Demand would amount to a virtual Refusal to enter into any Negotiation, as I had learnt from Lieutenant Chalmers that the Garrison of Coimbatour was so much dispersed, that it was not in Tippoo's Power to execute the Capitulation immediately, I judged it advisable to relax upon that Point; and accordingly, after consulting with our Allies, I contented myself with saying, that as he had shewn a Disposition to make Atonement for the Breach of the Capitulation, I should not, on Account of the present critical State of Affairs, insist upon it's being fully executed previous to all Negotiation, and that he was at Liberty to send Vackeels to a Spot that was pointed out, where Deputies from the Confederate Powers would meet them, to hear their Propositions.

In consequence of this Permission he appointed Gholam Ali Khan, who had been at the Head of his Embassy to Constantinople, and Ali Reza, his Vackeels, and they arrived, and encamped at the Place that had been fixed upon for them on the Afternoon of the 13th.

Conceiving it to be very improbable that Tippoo would authorize his Vackeels to make any specific Propositions to us, I thought it would be proper, in the Event of their declining to offer any Terms, that our Deputies should be prepared to state those in which the Allies would agree to desist from further Hostilities.

The Deputies having accordingly met the Vackeels in the Morning of the 14th, and the latter having, as I expected, declined to make any Offer, a Demand was made on our Part of the Cession of the Country, to the Extent of Three Crores of Rupees of Revenue, and of Eight Crores of Rupees in ready Money; to which the Vackeels replied, by protesting the total Inability of their Master to comply with the Demand; but added, that they would immediately go to the Fort, and lay it before him, and return as soon as possible with his own Answer to it.

The Vackeels accordingly returned next Morning; and, after many References to Tippoo upon the modified Conditions that were proposed at several different Meetings by the Deputies of the Allies, of which it is unnecessary to trouble you with a Detail, the Preliminary Articles of Peace, of which I have now the Honor to enclose a Copy, were at last finally settled and agreed to by Tippoo on the Night of the 23d of February; and, at Tippoo's earnest Request, all Hostilities ceased, without waiting for the Delivery of the Hostages, on the following Forenoon.

It was said that the Want of Punctuality in the Delivery of the Hostages was occasioned by some domestic Difficulties in Tippoo's own Family, as well as by it's requiring some Time to arrange their Attendants, and to settle the Ceremonials of their Reception in Camp; but on the 26th he sent out his second and third Son to be delivered into my Hands.

All the Points that came under Discussion in the Course of the Negotiation were regularly communicated to Hurry Punt and to Azeem ul Omrah, and their Sentiments requested upon them; and it will, no Doubt, give you Pleasure to hear, that in every

Measure that was determined upon respecting this important Negotiation, there has uniformly been the most cordial Concurrence and Union in our Opinions.

Indeed the general Confidence which has been shewn on the Occasion in our good Faith, cannot fail of being highly gratifying to you; for the Deputies that were named by Hurry Punt and Azeem ul Omrah came to me previous to their Meeting with Tippoo's Vackeels, to declare that they were instructed to agree to any Terms of Peace that should appear to me to be suitable to the Interests of the Three States; and no Murmur or Discontent has been expressed at the Hostages remaining, according to the Desire of their Father, in my particular Conduct.

I did not expect that Tippoo's Nature would suddenly change, and that he would act with Openness and Candor in executing the Articles of the Treaty. I was, therefore, in no Degree surprized at finding, when his Revenue Accounts were produced, an evident Design to practise every Art to impose upon us, by exaggerating the Value of the Districts that lie contiguous to the Territories of the Allies, and under-rating those in the interior Parts of his Dominions, and which consequently are not to be ceded.

He has, however, in the mean Time, paid above One Crore of Rupees, which has been divided equally amongst the Three Powers; and I persuade myself, that, by a firm Perseverance in the Demand that we have made of the Production of original Papers for our Inspection, we shall, before long, be able to ascertain the Amount of his Revenue with sufficient Accuracy for regulating the Extent of the Districts that are to be ceded by him, according to the Terms of the Treaty; and the Armies will not only remain in this Neighbourhood, but even the Guard of the Trenches will continue to mount regularly until all these Arrangements shall be completed.

I have in many Instances derived great Advantage from Sir John Kennaway's Services, in acting as a Channel of Intercourse between me and Azeem ul Omrah; but it has proved peculiarly fortunate that his Attendance upon the Minister put it in my Power, at this important Juncture, to avail myself, by naming him as my Deputy, of his Address and conciliatory Manners, in conducting the Negotiations to so happy an Issue; and it is very satisfactory to me, that I can equally depend upon the most able Assistance from him, both in obtaining from Tippoo the Execution of the Preliminaries, and in framing the Articles of the Definitive Treaty of Peace.

The Territory that the Company will acquire by the Peace will be considerable in Point of Revenue, though, from the wide Difference in several Statements of Tippoo's whole Revenues that have been produced, I cannot yet form a Judgement of the Amount; but, important as an Addition of Revenue may be, I consider it of infinitely more Consequence to the Interests of the Company and the Nation, than almost any Sum whatever, that the overgrown Power of Tippoo, from which we have at different Times suffered so much, and which has so long threatened your Possessions on both Coasts with total Destruction, has been reduced, by the Event of this War, within Bounds, which will deprive him of the Power, and perhaps of the Inclination, to disturb us for many Years to come; whilst at the same Time I hope that our Acquisitions by this Peace, will give so much additional Strength and Compactness to the Frontiers of our Possessions, both in the Carnatic, and on the Coast of Malabar, as to render it extremely difficult for any Power above the Ghauts to invade them.

The Firmness and Gallantry that has been displayed by the Troops that compose this Army, under the uncommon Hardships and Difficulties to which they have been so often exposed during the Course

Course of this War, reflects the highest Honor upon themselves as Soldiers, and gives them the strongest Claim to the Applause and Favor of the Company and the Nation; and the Zeal and Alacrity with which my Instructions have been uniformly obeyed, as well as the personal Attachment that has been shewn to me on several trying Occasions, by the Officers and Soldiers in general, will ever be remembered by me with the warmest Gratitude.

Although Circumstances prevented General Abercromby from sharing in some of the active Scenes in which the principal Army was engaged, I am not the less sensible of his ardent Desire to promote the Public Good, or of his Ability in executing the Services that were allotted to him: And no Words can express the Sense that I shall entertain throughout Life of the Ability and refined Generosity and Friendship with which General Medows has invariably given me his Support and Assistance.

I have thought it necessary, as a Reward to the Soldiers for the Chearfulness with which they have performed so many various Duties, and as some Compensation to the Officers for the extraordinary Expenses to which they have been exposed, to order a Gratuity equal to Six Months Batta* to be issued from the Money that has been paid by Tippoo, to all the Troops that have been employed upon this Service, which I hope will meet with your Approbation: And as General Abercromby's Situation would not justify him in following General Medows's and my own Example in declining to accept of any Share in Prize Money or Gratuity, and from his receiving no Batta, there is no Rate upon that Ground for regulating his Portion, I have judged it most equitable to direct that he shall receive Half a Sixteenth of the Amount of the whole Sum that shall be issued to the Army, being the Proportion of Prize Money which he is entitled to draw, according to the Principle of Division, which we understand to be established for the Flag Officers of His Majesty's Navy, and which has been adopted for the General Officers of this Army.

This Dispatch will be delivered to you by Captain Madan, my Aide du Camp, whom I beg Leave to recommend to your Notice; and as he obtained my Leave to go from Bengal to join the Army in the Carnatic, at the breaking out of the War, and has, since that Time, served constantly in the Field, he will be able to explain the Details of many Transactions, of which you may be desirous to receive particular Information.

Captain Kyd has my Directions to prepare a Sketch of the Ground on which the Action was fought, and it will be transmitted to your Honorable Court with this Dispatch.

I have the Honor to be,

With great Respect,

Honorable Sirs,

Your most obedient, and most
humble Servant,

Camp near Seringapatam,
March 4, 1792.

CORNWALLIS.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor in Council at Madras, in their Political Department, to the Court of Directors, dated March 15, 1792.

IN our Address by the Vestal we had the Honor to advise you of the splendid and decisive Victory obtained by Lord Cornwallis over the Enemy on the Night of the 6th Ult. and of General Abercromby's having joined the Grand Army, without any Molestation, on the 15th.

On the 28th of last Month we received a Letter

* About Twenty-two Lacs of Rupees.

from Lord Cornwallis, dated the 20th, informing us that a Negotiation was in some Forwardness, and promised to be brought to a speedy Conclusion, unless Tippoo's Vackeels had exceeded their Master's Instructions; the Basis of which was, the Surrender of One Half of Tippoo's Dominions, to be divided amongst the Allies, according to the Terms of the Treaty, and to be chosen by them from the Countries most contiguous or convenient for them; a large Sum of Money to be paid; and the Sultan's Two eldest Sons to be given as Hostages till the Articles were fulfilled.

An Arrangement of this Kind, which effectually destroys the dangerous Power of Tippoo, his Lordship was of Opinion would be more beneficial to the Public than the Capture of Seringapatam, and render the final Settlement with the Allies, who seemed very partial to it, much more easy. He observed, that those whose Passions were heated, and who were not responsible for Consequences, would probably exclaim against leaving the Tyrant an Inch of Territory, but that it was his Duty to consult the real Interest of the Company and the Nation.

His Lordship advised us, in a subsequent Letter, that the Negotiation was still pending; that some Difficulties were started by the Vackeels relative to peculiar Circumstances attending Tippoo's Two eldest Sons, neither of whom were intended by him to be his Heir. That some Objections were likewise offered to the Cession of particular Places, on the Plea of their being ancient Possessions; and Proposals made for paying Part of the stipulated Sum in Jewels or Goods. That to all these Points his Lordship had given distinct and explicit Answers, and had required that the Business should be brought to an immediate Issue. That there was in the mean Time no Relaxation in the Operations of the War; the Approaches were carrying on, and General Abercromby had had a very smart Skirmish on the South Side of the River in Support of an advanced Piquet, which the Enemy had come out from the Fort, in considerable Force, to attack, but in which they were repulsed, though protected in a great Degree by the Fire of the Fort. Our Loss upon this Occasion amounted to 104 Men killed and wounded.

On the 23d Colonel Floyd arrived in Camp with a Convoy of Twenty-five Thousand Benjarries; and his Lordship advised us, that he had strongly urged Purseram Bhow, who was within Three or Four Days March of Seringapatam, to cross the River and join General Abercromby, instead of coming forward to Camp.

On the 24th his Lordship wrote to us, that Articles preliminary to a general Peace had been settled the Night before. That a Cessation of Hostilities had taken Place, and that Two of Tippoo's Sons were expected in Camp in a few Hours.

It was not, however, until Two Days after the Preliminary Articles had been agreed upon that Tippoo's Second and Third Sons arrived in Camp. The former, Lord Cornwallis informed us, was about Ten Years old, and the latter, who is the Son of Burraum ud Dien's Sister, and considered as the Heir to the Sultanat, about Eight. The Delay in their Arrival was not occasioned by any Interruption of the Treaty, but by the Difficulty and Diffidence of their leaving the Zenana, and by Tippoo's Anxiety that they should be properly received by his Lordship.

The Children were received by Lord Cornwallis with every Mark of Kindness and Respect; and his Lordship was happy in observing that "they seemed to entertain no Apprehensions of their new Father."

We have the Pleasure to inform your Honorable Court, that Tippoo sent to our Camp, on the 1st and 2d Instant, a Crore and Ten Lacs of Rupees; and